

SUMMARY

HA-1279

Greenwood/Charles Keenan House
331 Glenville Road
Churchville, MD 21028

Rev. William Finney, pastor at the Churchville Presbyterian Church (HA-441) from 1813 until 1854, built Greenwood in 1841. He moved here after selling his first house, the ca. 1821 Oak Farm (HA-149), and 20 years later sold Greenwood to his son, George J. Finney.

The house reflects the evolution of taste between the time Wm. Finney built Oak Farm and the time he built Greenwood. The frame, el-shaped clapboard structure with a symmetrically-arranged front facade and interior center hall plan is typical of mid-19th century structures built in this area. It shows a conformity to local stylistic patterns that the earlier house did not and is a logical predecessor to the ca. 1865 official Churchville Presbyterian Manse. (HA-994)

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Greenwood

AND/OR COMMON

Charles Keenan house

2 LOCATION (East side of Glenville Rd., west of Md. Rte. 155)

STREET & NUMBER

331 Glenville Road

CITY, TOWN

Churchville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

___ STRUCTURE

___ SITE

___ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

___ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___ IN PROCESS

___ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

___ UNOCCUPIED

___ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

___ YES: UNRESTRICTED

___ NO

PRESENT USE

___ AGRICULTURE

___ MUSEUM

___ COMMERCIAL

___ PARK

___ EDUCATIONAL

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ ENTERTAINMENT

___ RELIGIOUS

___ GOVERNMENT

___ SCIENTIFIC

___ INDUSTRIAL

___ TRANSPORTATION

___ MILITARY

___ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Keenan

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

331 Glenville Road

CITY, TOWN

Churchville

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21028

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

HA-1279

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two-story, gable-roofed frame house is located on the east side of Glenville Road, north of Level Road (Md. Rte. 155).

Set on a raised stone foundation and covered in clapboard, the structure is ell-shaped with brick interior chimneys in each end. The five-bay by two-bay house faces south; the ell, which is three bays long and one room deep, extends to the north with its east side flush with the east end of the south section. With the exception of the 2/2 sash windows in the gables, windows have 6/6 sash, narrow beaded trim, and louvered shutters. The cornice is boxed.

On the main (south) facade, the entrance is in the center bay, flanked by two windows on both sides. The entrance door has two full-length vertical panels and there is an eight-light transom and four-light sidelights. A one-story, hip-roofed porch extends across the center three bays. The five windows in the second story are aligned with those in the first.

The west end has two windows in the first story--those in the second story are false with blind shutters.

The north side is covered by a two-story, shed-roofed porch with square posts 'in entasis' and a railing with square balusters. The exposed three bays of the north facade contain two windows and a door in the east bay in the first story and, in the second story, a door in the center bay flanked by a window on each side.

The east end of the south section has two windows in the first story, one in the second, and two in the gable. (The outline of an earlier window in the second story north bay is visible.)

The east side of the ell has a door in the first story center bay flanked by a window on the north and a pair of 3/3 sash windows on the south. There are two windows in the second story.

The north end of the ell is blank except for two gable windows.

The west side of the ell has three windows in each story with an additional door in the south bay of the first story.

The interior has a center hall plan with several rooms in the ell, which has been rearranged. The south section has six-panel doors and window and door trim with a pattern of two or three scotia and corner rondels. The fireplace in the west wall has a rectangular shelf, a molded cornice, an inset panel in the frieze, and columns flanking the opening.

Springhouse

This two-story, stone spring/smoke house, located east of the house, is said to contain stones from the old St. George's Church in Perryman. The gable-roofed structure has openings as follows: A door and window in the ground level of the south side, a door in the second story west end, and another door in the ground level north side. The ground level contains a smoke room with a chimney in the east end, and a barrel vaulted room for the water storage tank, with a passage leading from it to the well, which is situated between the house and springhouse. In the second story west end is the room used for hanging meats.

Southwest of the house is a frame and stone bank barn.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

After the Reverend William Finney persuaded his friend Joseph Beeman to purchase his house "Oak Farm" (HA-149) in 1841, Finney built this house nearby.

Finney had been the pastor at Churchville Presbyterian Church since 1813. After he married Margaret Irvine in 1820, he built the stone house ^{Oak Farm} on part of the tract called "Aquillas Inheritance." Margaret & William Finney had six children: Susan Corney Finney (b. 1822, d. 1894); Ebenezer Dickey Finney (b. 1825, d. 1904), the first pastor at the Bel Air Presbyterian Church; John Miller Finney (b. 1823, d. 1896), the Churchville doctor for 50 years; George Junkin Finney (b. 1820, d. 1906), who later raised his family in this house; William Finney, Jr. (b. 1827, d. 1862), who went off to California in search of gold; and Charles McLean Finney (b. 1829; d. 1897), who survived the California gold rush to return to Churchville.

George J. Finney purchased this property--77 acres for \$5000 in 1858¹ and 85 acres for \$2000 in 1864.² Rev. William Finney moved into the Finney-Somerville house (built by John M. Finney) across the road when Margaret died in 1865.

George J. Finney, a farmer, and his wife, Louisa Lyons Webster, lived here until George died in 1906, and Louisa sold the property in 1922 to Henry Lafayette Umbarger and Gardner Thompson Umbarger.³ (In 1904, the farm had reverted to Louisa Finney, who had held the mortgage.⁴)

In 1954, James Finney, great grandson of Rev. William Finney and Grandson of George J. Finney, purchased the farm, then 167 acres.⁵ In 1972, the house was sold with 4-1/2 acres to Mr. & Mrs. Charles Keenan.

The Finney family was one of Harford County's most illustrious. Reverend William Finney oversaw almost a half century of the development of one of Harford County's earliest Presbyterian congregations, the Churchville Presbyterian Church. George J. Finney was a member of the Board of County Commissioners 1856-1857, Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners in 1893, and Chief Judge of the Orphans Court in 1902. (He is also reputed to have been the strongest man in Harford County.) He was also a member, trustee, and treasurer of the Churchville Presbyterian Church for 26 yrs.

The house itself is interesting because it reflects the evolution of taste between the time William Finney built "Oak Farm" around 1822 and the time he built this house. The frame, el-shaped structure with a symmetrically-arranged front facade and interior center hall plan is typical of the mid-19th century structures built in this area. Among other things, it shows a conformity to local stylistic patterns that the earlier house did not. The ca. 1820 "Oak Farm" was obviously built by a man familiar with other--i.e. cosmopolitan--traditions; "Greenwood," on the other hand, could have been built by any prosperous Harford Countian in 1841 and shows Reverend Finney's acclimation

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land, Will, & equity records of Harford County
Interview with Mary Barada, September, 1979

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION _____

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE _____

COUNTY _____

STATE _____

COUNTY _____

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Natalie Shivers, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Historic District Commission

DATE

10/79

STREET & NUMBER

45 South Main Street

TELEPHONE

838-6000 X207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Maryland Historical Trust
Inventory Form for State Historic Sites Survey

GREENWOOD
CHARLES KEENAN HOUSE

8. SIGNIFICANCE

to the area (he was originally from Chester County, Pa.). This house is the logical predecessor to the Churchville Presbyterian Manse, built a quarter of a century later on Churchville Road (HA-994). Even with the center front gable and change in dimensions, the two structures are based on the same pattern.

Springhouse

The springhouse, built using stones from the third St. George's Parish Church, is also notable. Flagstones imported from England were used in St. George's Parish Church, built in 1759-1760, and replaced by the Spesutie Church in 1851. At that time, William Finney acquired the flagstones for his springhouse: they are diamond-shaped and of a lighter color than the local stone making up the balance of the structure.

1. Liber ALJ 9, Folio 381
2. Liber WHD 15, Folio 120
3. Liber JAR 181, Folio 27
4. Liber WSF 113, Folio 67
5. Liber GRG 414, Folio 423

GREENWOOD/GEORGE J. FINNEY HOUSE

Title Search

HA-1279

1.	909/1031	October 19, 1972	Grantor: Alan & Carolee Getz Commercial & Savings Bank Grantee: Charles B. & Carolyn W. Keenan Acreage: 4.52 Acres
2.	885/248	October 4, 1971	Grantor: Dauphin Deposit Trust Co., rep. of estate of James McC. Finney, late of Harford County & Mary F. Barada of Baltimore Grantee: Alan & Carolee Getz Sum: \$120,000 Acreage: 113.159 Acres
3.	GRG 414/423	June 1, 1954	Grantor: Ruth K. Unbarger, widow; Gardner T. Unbarger, Jr., unmarried; James T. & Jeanne Y. Unbarger Grantee: James McC. Finney Acreage: 167.24 Acres
4.	GRG 356/418	May 11, 1951	Grantor: Ruth K. Unbarger, widow Grantee: Gardner T. Unbarger, Jr. & James T. & Jeanne Y. Unbarger Acreage: 164.92 Acres
5.	GLB 255/341	April 21, 1939	Grantor: Dorothy E. Howard, unmarried Grantee: Gardner Thompson & Ruth Unbarger Acreage: 170.56 Acres
6.	GLB 255/340	April 21, 1939	Grantor: Gardner Thompson & Ruth K. Unbarger Grantee: Dorothy E. Howard Acreage: 170.56 Acres
7.	GLB 255/290	March 6, 1939	Grantor: Henry Lafayette & Ola Jane Unbarger Grantee: Gardner Thompson Unbarger Acreage: 170.56 Acres (grantor's right in property)
8.	JAR 181/27	November 3, 1922	Grantor: Louisa L. Finney, widow Grantee: Henry Lafayette Unbarger & Gardner Thompson Unbarger Acreage: 170.56 Acres
9.	WSF 113/67	May 5, 1904	Grantor: Wm. W. Finney, Permanent Trustee for estate of George J. Finney, an insolvent Grantee: Louisa L. Finney Sum: \$50 Acreage: 190 Acres

Title Search (Cont'd.)

HA-1279

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|-------------------|--|
| 10. | ALJ 39/133 (Mort.) | May 5, 1879 | Grantor: George J. Finney
Grantee: Edwin H. Webster, Trust. of Louisa L. Finney, wife of George J. Finney
Sum: \$6394
Acreage: 190 Acres |
| 11. | WHD 18/110 | November 26, 1866 | Grantor: John M. Finney
Grantee: George J. Finney
Sum: \$3000
Acreage: "Aquilla's Inheritance" Lot #9 = 8 3/4 Acres, 19 perches; Lot #3 = 11 Acres, 1 rood, 1 perch
Total: 27½ Acres |
| 12. | WHD 15/120 | May 7, 1864 | Grantor: Wm. & Margaret Finney
Grantee: George J. Finney
Sum: \$2000
Acreage: 85 Acres, 1 rood, 18 perches |
| 13. | ALJ 9/381 | January 26, 1858 | Grantor: William & Margaret Finney
Grantee: George J. Finney
Sum: \$5000
Acreage: "Aquilla's Inheritance" = 77 Acres, 2 roods, 5 perches |

ABERDEEN
USGS
QUADRANGLE

Hopewell Ch

Level

HA-1278

HA-1278

HA-1279

HA-1277

Churchville

HA-994

Smith Chapel

HA-1276

Bodt Corner

HA-1280

HA-1053

HA-1284

HA-1286

HA-1285

HA-1054

HA-1287

HA-1300

Camins

Jefferson Sch

Gravel Pit

Baker Cem

GILBERT

HA-1279



Greenwood/ HA-1279
Finney-Keenan House
Churchville, MD 21028
Natalie Shivers 8/79
Northwest



Greenwood/

HA-1279

Finney-Kennan House

Churchville, MD 21028

Natalie Shivers

8/79

Southeast



HA-1279
"Greenwood"/Finney-Keenan house
Churchville, MD
Photograph taken ca. 1900



4A-1279
Greenwood"/Finney-Keenan house
Churchville, MD
Northeast elevation
Photograph taken before 1900.